

[2 August, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

STATE	ALLOTMENT				OFFTAKE (Provisional)			
	Rice	Paddy	Wheat	Total	Rice	Paddy	Wheat	Total
Madhya Pradesh	54424	0	158655	213079	39095	0	123846	162941
Orissa	150000	0	0	150000	131815	0	146170	146432
Rajasthan	0	0	568145	568145	0	477441		477441
TOTAL	464563	298507	883315	1646385	409491	298507	699893	1407891

'In case of Orissa wheat allocation of 20,000 tonnes has been converted into rice allocation but 14617 tonnes of lifting of wheat has been reported.

FCI godowns in Himachal Pradesh and Punjab

1216. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of godowns with FCI in Himachal Pradesh and Punjab both covered and uncovered, separately;

(b) the exact quantity and value of foodgrains lying in open godowns as on date in these States; and

(c) what measures Government have taken to protect the foodgrains from rotting?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) The number of godowns (covered and uncovered) available with Food Corporation of India as on 1.7.2001 are as under:—

State	No. of Godowns		
	Covered Plinths (CAP)	Covered & Uncovered	Total
Himachal Pradesh	15	—	15
Punjab	408	200	608

(b) The quantity and value of foodgrains lying in Covered and Plinth Godowns in Himachal Pradesh and Punjab as on 1.7.2001 is as under:—

Figure in Lakh tonnes

State	Wheat	Paddy	Total
Himachal Pradesh	33.07	452	37.59
Punjab			

Value of Wheat — Rs. 2533.43 Crores (Approx.) Value of Paddy — Rs. 284.24 Crores (Approx.)

(c) To preserve stocks in storage and prevent the damages to the foodgrains, the following steps have been taken:—

- (i) Food Corporation of India stores foodgrains in the godowns built on scientific lines, which are rodent and damp proof.
- (ii) Qualified and technically trained staff is deployed for periodical inspection and proper upkeep of foodgrains.
- (iii) Foodgrains are stored on scientific lines and pest control measures are undertaken regularly.
- (iv) Arrangements are made to keep sufficient quantity of chemicals at each depot/storage point for prophylactic and curative treatments.
- (v) Movement of foodgrains from one place to another is done in covered wagons as far as possible. However, wherever stocks are moved in open wagons, the same are covered properly with Hrpaulin etc. to avoid damage in transit.
- (vi) On account of acute paucity of covered storage accommodation as also movement constraints, the Food Corporation of India is compelled to store wheat and paddy in the open under scientifically designed system for temporary storage called CAP (Covered and Plinth). Following steps are taken to protect the foodgrains stored in CAP:— 1?

- (a) Stocks are stored on wooden crates and covered with specifically fabricated low density black polythene covers which are water proof so as to protect the foodgrains from rains.
- (b) Nylon ropes are provided for proper lashing the polythene covers to prevent damages by ballooning of covers during high velocity winds etc.
- (c) Polythene covers, monofilament nets, cover taps etc. are procured in advance so that the stocks kept in CAP are protected from the vagaries of weather.

Even after taking these precautions, some damage to the foodgrain stocks are likely to occur due to long storage and the vagaries of weather such as cyclones, floods, unprecedented rains, multiple handlings, transportation by rail and road, bleeding of foodgrains, sweepings, spillages and likelihood of contamination. Such affected foodgrain stocks mostly in CAP storage are retrieved by segregations-' salvaging, drying and cleaning etc. These affected foodgrain stocks are disposed of as "not fit for human consumption" for various purposes like Food-I, Food-II and Food for Industrial use, manure etc. etc.

Decline in per capita availability of foodgrains

*1217, DR. MAHESH CHANDRA SHARMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there has been a decline in availability of per capita foodgrains during 2000-2001 in comparison to the previous years; and
- (b) the quantity of foodgrains allotted to Rajasthan during 2000-2001 under "Annapurna Anna Yojana" and the number of people who have been given 10 kg. foodgrains per month free of cost?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.